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01/10/23 • COVID › VIEWS

Biden Officials 'Relentless' in Pressuring Social Media Companies to Censor COVID Content

The authors of a Wall Street Journal op-ed published Sunday called out the "relentless, coercive pressure" the White House put on social media companies to censor COVID-19-related information that contradicted the government and mainstream media narrative.

By The Defender Staff

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The authors of a Wall Street Journal op-ed published Sunday called out the "relentless, coercive pressure" the White House put on social media companies to censor COVID-19-related information that contradicted the government and mainstream media narrative.

Jenin Younes and Dr. Aaron Kheriaty detailed key parts of an email exchange between Robert Flaherty, the White House's director of digital strategy and social media executives.

The emails emerged Jan. 6 in the discovery phase of Missouri v. Biden, a free-speech lawsuit brought by the attorneys general of Missouri and Louisiana and four private plaintiffs represented by the New Civil Liberties Alliance.

Younes is litigation counsel at the New Civil Liberties Alliance and represents the private plaintiffs in Missouri v. Biden. Kheriaty is a psychiatrist and author of three books, a senior scholar at the Brownstone Institute, a fellow at the Ethics and Public Policy Center and one of the plaintiffs.

The emails are the latest in a slew of evidence — made public through lawsuits, Freedom of Information Act requests and the "Twitter files" — that emerged in the last few months exposing "a sprawling censorship regime involving the White House, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Department of Homeland Security, the FBI and other agencies."

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This included targeting tweets by Robert F. Kennedy, Jr., chairman and chief litigation counsel of Children's Health Defense, conservative commentator Tucker Carlson and others.

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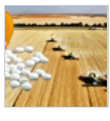

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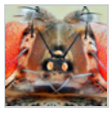

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In their op-ed, Younes and Kheriaty cited the text of emails between Flaherty and a Facebook executive. Flaherty accuses Facebook of being "one of the top drivers of vaccine hesitancy" and demands to know how the social media platform is working to change this on Facebook and WhatsApp.

Facebook responded with an extensive list of policy changes, including "removing vaccine misinformation," "reducing the virality of content discouraging vaccines that does not contain actionable misinformation" and removing accounts "sensationalizing" what they acknowledged was "often true content."

Unsatisfied with the results, Flaherty continued to pressure Facebook:

> "Mr. Flaherty pressed the executive about why 'the top post about vaccines today' is Tucker Carlson 'saying they don't work': 'I want to know what 'Reduction' actually looks like,' he said. The exec responded: 'Running this down now."

The documents reveal that Flaherty "also strong-armed Google in April 2021, accusing YouTube (which it owns) of 'funneling' people into vaccine hesitancy. He said this concern was 'shared at the highest (and I mean the highest) levels of the WH,' and required 'more work to be done.'"

Younes and Kheriaty also pointed out that President Biden, then-press secretary Jen Psaki and Surgeon General Dr. Vivek Murthy publicly vowed to hold the platforms accountable if they didn't heighten censorship.

They wrote:

> "On July 16, 2021, a reporter asked Mr. Biden his 'message to platforms like Facebook.' He replied, 'They're killing people.' Mr. Biden later claimed he meant users, not platforms, were killing people. But the record shows Facebook itself was the target of the White House's pressure campaign."

According to Younes and Kheriaty, the recently uncovered emails establish a clear pattern of the White House, represented by Flaherty, expressing anger at the companies' failure to satisfactorily censor COVID-19 content. The companies changed their policies in response to his demands.

"As a result of that unconstitutional state action, Americans were given the false impression of a scientific 'consensus' on critically important issues around Covid-19," the authors of the op-ed wrote. "A reckoning for the government's unlawful, deceptive and dangerous conduct is under way in court."

The views and opinions expressed in this article are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of Children's Health Defense.

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The Defender Staff

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Sign up for free news and updates from Robert F. Kennedy, Jr. and the Children's Health Defense. CHD is planning many strategies, including legal, in an effort to defend the health of our children and obtain justice for those already injured. Your support is essential to CHD's successful mission.

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sky35

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Biden has long been a corporate stooge... So his latest sucking up to the pharmaceutical industry is hardly surprising

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4 days ago

This quote resonates.
"If you would know who controls you see who you may not criticize."
— Tacitus

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4 days ago

Once a bought puppet..for 50 + years, always a bought puppet. right along with his many "twins"

4 0 Reply Share ›

GarySummers tag

3 days ago

"Robert F. Kennedy Joins Tucker Carlson to 'Discuss Lawsuit Against Trusted News Network' (VIDEO)"

TNI is a partnership of several big news outlets the AP, Reuters, the Washington Post aligned with big tech companies like Facebook and Google and founded by the BBC. TNI has admitted its mission is to stop "the title wave of unchecked reporting that's being piped through mainly digital platforms." As Tucker Carlson reported, "The initiative has censored an awful lot of people, including Robert F. Kennedy Jr. Whom history will vindicate completely."

On Tuesday night Robert Kennedy Jr., the founder of Children's Health Defense Organization, discussed the lawsuit with Tucker Carlson.

https://www.thegatewaypundi...

4 0 • Reply • Share ›

tag ↗ GarySummers
3 days ago
Watched it.
0 0 • Reply • Share ›

Jim Powell
4 days ago
Thanks to the Attorneys General of Missouri and Louisiana -- and SHAME on the silence of the other 48.
11 0 • Reply • Share ›

freedomandjusticeforall
4 days ago
This is great that the WSJ is leading the mainstream media is challenging the corrosive influence of CENSORSHIP. Keep it up!
11 0 • Reply • Share ›

Christine Jahnig
4 days ago
Vote them all OUT! Americans want, need and deserve a government dedicated to our best interests. We don't want, need or deserve a government that is owned by corporations, and especially not pharma.
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GarySummers ↗ Christine Jahnig
3 days ago
RFK. Jr For President, Independ Party, Our Last Hope.
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lakewoodsteve
4 days ago
All Godless totalitarian nations need to control free thinking & free speech! Satan wouldn't have it any other way!
8 0 • Reply • Share ›

tag ↗ lakewoodsteve
4 days ago
We all watch this nation come together in PRAYER for Damar Hamlin, just like we did after 9-11. that was short lived then and will be now. Felt good for a few days then???? This nation will never wake up and realize we can beat this crap if we come together in the fight. Just easier to fight with each other while the globalist laugh their assets off. Just like they have planned for decades.
5 0 • Reply • Share ›

DLT88
4 days ago
Too bad, Biden. People are waking up at an enormous speed. I believe there is some quote from the Bible about the TRUTH being shouted from the stones meaning the TRUTH can never be silenced forever! No matter how much they try and shut it down, the TRUTH is finding its way to the surface just as air does when it is kept underwater. It escapes and runs to the surface for ALL TO SEE. There is no stopping it, weakling Demon Biden.
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vgupta123
4 days ago
Even if the courts agree that the government violated the Constitution and the First Amendment, what specific punishment can they give to people like Mr. Flaherty so that his successors will dare not repeat this behavior. Can the courts send Mr. Flaherty to prison if he is convicted?
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John Mirenda
4 days ago
I guess we suspected this all along, still the details just stoke the disgust.
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John LePauvre
4 days ago
Where is the ACLU on this? Let me guess.
6 0 • Reply • Share ›

jeanneb ↗ John LePauvre
4 days ago
I can tell you where the ACLU is on one thing--supporting inmates in the county jail in Fayetteville, AR who are suing the doctor that saved their sorry asses by giving them Ivermectin for their Covid. Luckily, the county is standing by the doctor and keeping him on staff.
8 0 • Reply • Share ›

Jason Millman ↗ John LePauvre
4 days ago
The ACLU is now a t#rrorist organization. They supported full-force mandates.

"Far from compromising civil liberties, vaccine mandates actually further them. They protect the most vulnerable among us, including people with disabilities and fragile immune systems, children too young to be vaccinated, and communities of color hit hard by the disease."

https://www.aclu.org/news/c...

Nevermind that that is no isolated/purified v1rus to begin with. It is all a mirage.
5 0 • Reply • Share ›

Pilgrim ↗ John LePauvre
4 days ago
They (ACLU) are home creating hit pieces on Trump for a blog while home with Covid and wearing a mask.
5 0 • Reply • Share ›

trago
3 days ago
Why isn't Biden being impeached? He has violated his oath multiple times.
3 0 • Reply • Share ›

Garry Blankenship
3 days ago
The arrogance of the "we know what's best for you" is the height of hypocrisy. The Democratic Party, supposedly representing democracy for all, takes that freedom from all citizens like taking candy from a baby. Do they truly believe the greater good is served by pushing these toxic drugs ? How is it that freedom and informed consent are not homogeneous ?
3 0 • Reply • Share ›

Gary Brown
3 days ago
January 8, 2023 Covid-19 Vaccines Lead to New Infections and Mortality: The Evidence is Overwhelming Country Case Studies. Mortality and Morbidity

6.6 Million reported “adverse events”. But only a small fraction of the victims or families of the deceased will go through the tedious process of reporting vaccine related deaths and adverse events to the national health authorities. Those death and injury figures (EU, UK, US) SOFAR are at least ten times higher than the official reported cases. 410,000 deaths, 66 million injuries out of a population of approximately 850 million.

https://www.globalresearch....
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Lucita Garcia
4 days ago
IT ISN"T biden IT"S Obana
2 0 • Reply • Share ›

GarySummers ↗ Lucita Garcia
3 days ago
Plus Globalist, UN, WEF, CCP.
1 0 • Reply • Share ›

tag ↗ Lucita Garcia
4 days ago
You mean the barry O that as selected because he was black? The ladder rungs go way father up than that misfit.
1 0 • Reply • Share ›

Duties
4 days ago

Ask yourself: what is the vested interest for the Biden regime to censor Covid information? It isn't to protect people. Not by an administration so gung ho to abort defenseless babies right up until delivery. It's because the Scamdemic - masks, lockdowns, mRNA jabs - are about instilling fear and leveraging emergency powers to exert control.

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Cargo
3 days ago edited

Pfizer buys out a LED billboard on the California 60-East freeway (between exits of Fairway & Lemon).

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